ABNORMAL

Episode #1

"Pilot"

Written by

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Directed by

Markal

TEASER

EAST TEXAS 1992. SUMMER.

EXT. STREET VIEW LOOKING ON VICTORIAN HOME. NIGHT

Sounds of bustling laughter from the house. Muffled. A COUPLE is dancing inside, visible from window. Camera slowly pans forward, revealing TWO SIBLINGS (5 and 12) laughing and having fun. Music plays from turntable, muddied through the walls.

Camera pans into and through the window, sounds become clear. JACK spins BELLA before dipping her, laughter erupting from her.

BELLA
(Laughing)
Jack!

JACK
(Cordially)
Yes, my dear wife?

Older sibling, Maurie, cringes at the interaction. Exchanges grossed out expressions with younger sibling, ELOISE, who mimics this.

MAURIE
(Jokingly)
Ewww, don't

ELOISE
(Unsure)
Yeahh, ew

Bella places her hands on her hips and exchanges mischevious look with Jack. They grin before embracing in a kiss. The kids groan before MAURIE stands, hands raised.

MAURIE
Alright alright, I'm going to bed

Bella raises her eyebrows.

BELLA
My oh my, I see my lady must return to her chambers-
(Sarcastic bow)
Absolutely my leige, right away my leige

Maurie can't help grinning and hides behind her hands, partially embarressed but also amused.

Merkal

MAURIE
(unconvincingly)
You guys are the worst

Jack, fake offended, puts his hand to his chest as if physically wounded. Eloise giggles. Bella scoops up Eloise before gliding toward the lounge archway where the parlor and stairs are visible. She stops and reaches a hand out toward Maurie. Jack waits, but ready to follow.

MAURIE
(Defeated)
Alrighttt

Maurie sighs before taking her mother's hand and they pass the stairs. Jack follows closely behind. Behind the stairs is a basement door, Bella allows Jack to go in front of her to unlock it. They all begin to descend, Maurie first.

INT. BASEMENT. NIGHT

The basement is large and holding two beds in close proximity. Both identical. The overall basement seems to be divided into two parts that are separated dramatically by paint and wallpaper, but no walls. The GIRL'S ROOM is plastered with pastel colors and young children's things. The rest of the basement is filled with tools and various cords.

Slightly torn pale pink wallpaper reveals iron walls, which surround the entire basement.

Maurie hops onto her bed and Bella gently puts Eloise onto her own. Jack tucks Maurie in while Bella tucks Eloise in, both seem used to this and find it normal.

MAURIE
Promise you'll wake me up when you get back?

Jack smiles gently, stroking her hair.

JACK
We'll be fine.
(BEAT)
I promise.

MAURIE
Okay…

Bella kisses Eloise's forehead before standing up and heading towards the stairs. Jack does the same to Maurie and makes visible note that the lamp stays on. He follows Bella as she ascends the stairs. A heavy THUMP indicates the IRON DOOR shuts.

The sisters sit in silence for a moment before Eloise looks over to Maurie. She looks confused.

ELOISE
Where do mommy and daddy go?

All siblings dread when their younger siblings ask hard questions. Maurie tries to smile.

MAURIE
(Sad)
You'll understand when you're older, Ellie.

Eloise cocks her head a bit.

ELOISE
Is it bad?

MAURIE
Just go to sleep, Ellie. We can ask mommy and daddy in the morning.

Maurie expertly evades the question, something in her eyes looks burdened however. She turns away to avoid it being noticed.

ELOISE
Okkay… 'night 'night Mai

MAURIE
'Night…

Maurie stares off screen, a sense of foreboding. The camera slowly pans closer to her face, music intensifies. Then--

END OF TEASER

Markal

ACT ONE

INT. RATTY MOTEL ROOM - EVENING - CLOUDY - 2010

Eloise (23) sits leaned back in a rusty chair, drinking another bear of many. The table in front of her sits filled with uneaten food and empty bear cans and bottles. A pill bottle lies opened and spilled at her feet. She stares off into space. A look of emptiness.

Her phone trills, stirring her. She contemplates for a moment then-

ELOISE
(Evenly)
Yes?

A deep, male voice responds on the other end of the call. He, RUDY, sounds worried.

RUDY
I got an update about another case.. but.. Kid, you alright?

ELOISE
(Sighs)
What do you have?

RUDY
(Throaty laugh)
What *don't* I have? Ever since those Winchester boys killed Lilith-
(Abrudtly stops)
(Clears throat)
-Well, anyway. Countless demon sightings. All over the country. Everyone is going crazy.

Eloise rolls her eyes in a defeated way, not in an annoyed way.

ELOISE
Nearest one?

RUDY
That'll be twelve miles South of you, a little town called Providence. Buncho' deaths there. Public sightings of black eyed freaks. Read up on it, do ya homework, it'll be hard to miss.

ELOISE
Rudy… I know how to hunt. No need to tell me how to do my job.
(Phone beeps off)

Mirka

BEAT
…damnit…

Eloise gets up with visible difficulty, like her body is heavy with lead. Her foot hits the pill bottle. She silently stares at it, then turns away resolving to leave it behind. She pulls on her jacket that lay on the made bed, grabs a bag from the foot of it, and then leaves.

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - EVENING

Eloise leaves the keys in the lock then makes her way to her 72' AMC JAVELINE, flicking the keys on her finger several times before inserting it and unlocking the car door. She throws the bag in the passenger's side, taking a moment to look at the unoccupied seat. A look of sadness crosses her face. She clears her throat, starting up the car.

She rolls out of the PARKING LOT. As soon as she hits the road she puts the pedal to the metal. The camera stays as the car zooms out of frame.

INT. CAR, DRIVER'S SIDE - LATE NIGHT

Eloise uses a flashlight to flit through the day's paper:

FAMILY FOUND DEAD - LOCAL POLICE SUSPECT OCCULT INVOLVMENT

Camera switches angles from the dash view of the passenger's side. A shadow moves silently behind Eloise. A quiet, threatening whisper stops Eloise dead.

MAURIE
(Mockingly)
Chasing dead fucks? Again? Really, I thought you were *above* all that, dear sister.

Eloise crumples the paper slightly, but resolves to keep reading, ignoring the other.

MAURIE
(Offended)
You know, this whole 'ignore me til I disappear' schtick was cute at first, but now it's just annoying.
(Whining)
Talk to meeee…
…pretty please?

Eloise continues to ignore her, now flipping the newspaper page over.

MAURIE
C'mon, your hurting your ol' big sis here.

SWISH- Eloise swings her knife suddenly at Maurie. It goes through her neck, but as if she were a ghost. Eloise looks equal parts terrified and ragefull, but not surprised.

MAURIE
Really? Again? How many times is that now? You never learn. You never did.

Eloise turns back to the paper, but is visibly not reading it, her eyes darting everywhere. She resolves to flick on the stereo which is playing IF I DIE YOUNG by THE BAND PERRY. She cranks up the volume. Maurie rolls her eyes and slumps back into the backseat.

Eloise shuffles the paper, taking note. She looks up, a sense of foreboding. She found something.

EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD STREET - DAY

Eloise clunks the trunk of the car closed, slinging her duffle bag over her shoulder. She looks around to make sure no is around. Going unnoticed by a faroff neighbor, she ducks under crime tape of a large home.

Eloise tries the locked door first then reaches into her jacket to open a small pouch which is revealed to be a lockpick kit. After tinkering with the knob for a bit, the door CLICKS open.

She looks around suspiciously, then enters.

INT. AVERAGE HOUSE PARLOR - DAY

Immediately, Eloise is hit with a smell. She recoils at it, looking around for the source.

ELOISE
What the hell…

She spots scattered Sulfur and sifts it between her fingers. She looks around. Maurie suddenly speaks O.C. In a space that was previously unoccupied. The camera cuts to a wider angle.

MAURIE
(Tauntingly)
Ooooh! Spooky! Demons? It's gotta be demons, have to love those rotten eyed bastards

Eloise merely glances at Maurie before spotting the stairs to the upper floor.

MAURIE
It has to be a lot of 'em. I mean, Sulfur like this? Geez, hate to be at the end of *that* party

Eloise passes her without a word, making for the upper floor.

MAURIE
(Whining)
C'monnnn, it's been so long! I'm so bored! Talk to me!

Eloise continues walking, entirely ignoring Maurie. The stairs creak under her weight. A sudden THUMP from an upstairs room rouses Eloise to dash up the remainder steps.

INT. AVERAGE HOUSE UPPER FLOOR CORRIDOR - DAY

Silence fills the hallway, but only one door remained closed out of all of them. The one at the very end. Eloise reaches behind her belt and pulls out a .45, preparing herself for an encounter. She drops her duffle bag silently and approaches.

Maurie hovers behind Eloise, poised as if unserious.

MAURIE
(Whispering)
This is probably the part where I should keep quiet, huh?

Eloise continues to approach the door, seemingly looking like she's preparing for something painful, but not physically.

Out of nowhere, music rips through the silence. Eloise flinches but keeps her pace steady. Maurie is holding a speaker yelling something incoherent.

Eloise simply quicks a glare before flipping Maurie off.

The door opens loudly but the volume is unnoticed by Eloise who is still being stalked by Maurie and her speaker. A previously hunched over DEMON stirs and is alerted by her presence because of the door. Somewhere in the background is a gory scene. It LUNGES at Eloise with a screeching growl.

ELOISE
(Stressed)
Shit!

BANG BANG, two shots in the forehead, propelling the Demon back. It doesn't keep the demon confused for long. It growls forward again. BANG! BANG! BANG! Three in the chest. It shrugs it off, now running at Eloise.

It stops a hair width away and a moment later it's screeching on the floor, groveling. Steam begins to sizzle out of the bullet wounds

Eloise exhales once before turning around and rifling through her duffle bag in the hallway. It doesn't take long for her to find what she's looking for. She returns to the pained demon and straps on a metal gag with demon warding engravings etched in. She pulls out a single SHORT SPEAR and impales it through the demon's hands and stuck into the wall. Its scream is still just as loud with the gag on.

Maurie begins to cackle, and all at once the music stops.

ELOISE
(Pissed)
Talk. What happened here?

The demon doesn't respond. Boldly, but foolishly. Eloise twists the Spear in deeper. The Demon screams.

DEMON
(Pleading)
Fine! Fine! Fine!

Eloise halts her hand.

DEMON
(Panting)
The… The demons… We've been given…
Permission to do what we want.

ELOISE
By who?

DEMON
You haven't heard?
(Laughs)
My god, you're an--

Eloise SHINKS the blade all the way the the blade's base through the Demon's hands. His screams cut him off.

ELOISE
By. Who.

DEMON
(Hesitant, but afraid)
Lucifer. Our great lord. He's finally returned, and we demons will be
(Satisfied)
Ascended.

MAURIE
(Giggling)
My. God. Who in their right mind *freed* Lucifer?

Eloise narrows her eyes at the demon.

Markal

ELOISE
Tell me everything.

The demon sighs but complies when Eloise pulls out a flask with a cross on it.

DEMON
(Hurridly)
Wait, wait, wait, wait! I'll tell you! Just… Just put away the Holy Water?

Eloise begins unscrewing it, maintaining eye contact but otherwise doing nothing.

DEMON
(Panicked)
The- The Winchesters! I heard the younger one freed Lucifer--
(The flask head releases)
--and, and killed Lilith! She was the final seal or something. That's all I know! I swear!

Eloise contemplates for a moment, looking at her flask of Holy Water casually, then back to the demon. She considers.

ELOISE
I believe you.

The demon screams once again as Holy Water is forced into his eye, smoke sizzling from his skull. Maurie is in the background popping popcorn comically into her mouth, as if watching an entertaining show.

The demon continues to be tortured (O.C.) while the camera zooms into Maurie's face, showing her true enjoyment of this scenario. She smiles.

INT. ELOISE'S CAR - DAY

Maurie is humming in the passenger's seat, swaying to an invisible beat. Eloise is splattered with blood and looks equal parts pissed and satisfied.

MAURIE
(Happily)
You know, I *know* it's been a rough several days, but I have to hand it to you, Ellie! Your demon torture never gets old, even in death I can attest to this.
(Satisfied sigh)
Oh how the student surpasses the master.

Eloise sighs.

Mikal

ELOISE
(Quietly)
It's the only useful thing you taught me.

Maurie stops and takes a minute of shocked silence to respond.

MAURIE
(Pleased)
My. She speaks. Carving that demon really got you in a good mood, huh?

ELOISE
Your incessent loudness was becoming impeding. Clearly my silent treatment wasn't getting the message across so I'll just tell you.

Maurie bats her eyes.

ELOISE
(Please)
Leave me alone.

Maurie scoffs, doing dramatic gesturing as if physically wounded by such a proposition. She looks around as if there were an invisible audience that could relate to her 'pain'.

MAURIE
(The audacity)
My own. Sister.
(Chokes on fake cry)
And… And here I thought we were getting along-

ELOISE
(Pissed)
-We haven't gotten along since mom and dad died, you bitch.

MAURIE
(Dramatic)
We exchanged *touching* words of solace to one another when I died out in your arms!
("Sob")
Did that mean nothing to you??

Eloise's grip tightens around the wheel of the car, whitening her knuckles. Her jaw clenches.

ELOISE
What words? I murdered you after you *tried* to kill me. Rather unsuccessfully I'd say.
(MORE)

Mirkal

ELOISE (CONT'D)
You'd think getting dragged down to hell would prevent…
(Looks over)
Well, whatever *you* are.

MAURIE
(Sarcastically)
Wow, what do you really feel?

ELOISE
(Monotone)
For you? Nothing.

A long silence draws out between them, the quiet static of the radio buzzing in the background. Eloise shifts her grip on the wheel, but it's still just as tightly wrapped around. She exhales sharply.

ELOISE
(Agitated)
So? Why are you still here?

MAURIE
Hm? Oh, because you didn't say please.

ELOISE
PLEASE!

MAURIE
Nope!

Eloise yells in anger, twisting the volume knob of the car radio to the max and flooring the pedal. The engine revs before launching the car speedily forward. Yikes.

Maurie is only laughing as they whish passed blurring trees and mile signs. Her laugh is haunting and evil, almost echoing inside Eloise's head as if it has its own frequency separate from the music. She can hear it clearly.

Maurie's laugh audibly devolves into a headache, as if its echoing resonance takes the mind out of the head and slams it back in. The camera swirls as the laugh becomes louder and louder until-

RING, RING, RING!

Eloise gasps, all the effects of Maurie's laughter snapping away. She releases her foot off the gas and relaxes the tension in her hands. It takes her another moment to pick up the phone and turn down the radio volume.

RUDY
(On speaker)
Hey kiddo, got new intel about the demon sightings. Apparently-

ELOISE
(Exhausted)
-Someone released Lucifer.
(Beat)
The Winchesters.

RUDY
(Cautious)
And you know this…?

Eloise exhales with a small smirk. He should know by now.

ELOISE
I'm a professional, Rudy.

RUDY
(Slowly)
Right… But it wasn't long since…
Well…

ELOISE
(Regretting bringing it up)
Y'know what, just tell me how to lock Lucifer back up and we can move on from this awkward moment?

A moment of silence lingers on the phone. It isn't awkward, but more so… Fearful?

ELOISE
Rudy?

RUDY
(Audibly frowning)
There isn't a way, El.

Another moment of silence passes as Eloise processes the news. She looks skeptically at the phone propped on her dash. She doesn't believe what she hears.

ELOISE
What do you mean? There's always a way, he's just a demon-

RUDY
(Serious)
-He's not.

ELOISE
Enough riddles, Rudy.

RUDY
Lucifer. He's not a demon. He's an angel.

Eloise laughs suddenly and shortly.

Mirkal

ELOISE
(Amused)
Right, yeah. And I'm a tyrannosaurus rex.
(Then)
There's no such thing as angels.

Rudy groans over the phone. It seems as if he has only just wrapped his mind around the concept. Eloise cocks her head to the side, her smile stilling and fading.

ELOISE
You're serious.

Her expression evolves slowly and smoothly into a look of perplexed confusion.

ELOISE
Seriously?

RUDY
Mhm.

ELOISE
And you're source is…?

RUDY
Well, not counting the Bible or, much less, every other account of the spiritual that say that Lucifer was originally an angel of God… I may be in contact with… The-

ELOISE
(Glare)
-The Winchesters? Really? Rudy, really?

Eloise sighs, tapping her wheel with her finger. She glances over to the now empty passenger seat. Mixed feelings of relief and disappointment.

RUDY
(Defensive)
They're good hunters! Bobby can vouch for them and the intel is solid!

ELOISE
(Sarcastically)
Right. Good hunters who, oh yeah, opened the gate to hell. Didn't one of them sell his soul? And do I even want to know *how* they ended up freeing Lucifer, the apparent evil angel?

Mickal

RUDY
(Hesitant)
Kid, you sure this isn't about your grudge with 'em?

ELOISE
(Pissed)
Hell yeah I'm unhappy they killed Lilith before I could, but shit Rudy, is that the best you think of me? Logically speaking, *objectively* speaking, those are not hunters you want to be anywhere near.

Rudy stays silent for a time. Eloise exhasperatedly shrugs at the phone. She seems to internally wrestle on her next choice words.

ELOISE
(Damn Winchesters)
Fine, let's just say their intel is reliable. There has to be a way to kill an… An angel.
(Under breath)
Jesus, I never thought I'd say that.

RUDY
(Unhopeful)
Alright, I'll call you back on what I find. Don't be too hopefull, kiddo.

ELOISE
Sure, sure. Thanks, Rudy.

Eloise clicks the phone off. She nervously looks out her window for a second, then at the wheel. She lingers on some odd object or another before finally looking at the passenger seat. It's empty. All she feels is a promise of torment, even if it isn't at that very moment. The absence of Maurie is the presence of the threat of her returning.

Eloise tentively looks forward on the road again, her grip reflexively tightening around the wheel. She knows, and we know, Maurie is only toying with her.

EXT. DINER PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Eloise's AMC Javeline pulls into a SCOTT'S DINER. The ambiance is rainy and wet, the neon sign of the diner illuminating the pavement.

Eloise exits the vehicle with a hard SLAM. She makes her way into the diner.

INT. DINER DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Eloise waves at a waitress and takes a booth seat. A blond haired waitress (20) walks up to her with a pad.

ELOISE
Just a burger, side of fries and a coke.

WAITRESS
Right away!

Eloise plops a newspaper in front of her. It seems to be a different one from before. She's about to begin reading when a STRANGER slides into the booth opposite of her. He gives off a dangerous and dark aura. It's familiar to Eloise but she can't place it.

Eloise narrows her eyes at the Stranger. She puts down the paper.

ELOISE
(Cautious)
Can I… Help you?

STRANGER
(Friendly)
I believe we can help each other, friend.

Eloise leans back, dropping her arms to her lap. The camera is on the knife strapped to her belt. The camera cuts back to a wider angle.

ELOISE
(Playing along)
The fun kind of help or…?

The Stranger leans forward and offers a handshake. Eloise doesn't take it. He sits back again.

ELOISE (CONT'D)
Do you have a name?

STRANGER
Arad. My name is Arad.

Some silence draws out.

ELOISE
(Awkwardly)
Right…
(Cocking her head)
Pardon my bluntness, but what do you want?

The Waitress returns almost on cue, placing down Eloise's food.

Mark!

She turns to Arad but it waved off before she can say a word. She leaves. Arad leans forward, causing tension, before unexpectedly grabbing a fry off of Eloise's plate.

ARAD
(Calmly)
I want to kill Lucifer.

Eloise doesn't move and just takes a moment to assess the situation. A crowded diner likely isn't the best place for a fight, and she knows it.

ELOISE
I'm going to take a stab in the dark and say you're *not* a hunter.
(Beat)
But… You don't strike me as a creature. Definitely not human. Getting too much uncanny valley from you.

Eloise grabs a fry of her own without breaking eye contact.

ELOISE (CONT'D)
What are you?
(munch)

Arad shifts in his seat, looking uncomfortable. Or perhaps scared?

ARAD
(Quietly)
Do you swear not to kill me and hear me out first?

This peaks Eloise's interest and tells her several things. She gathers she has the upper hand here, even if this *thing* were to use whatever arsenal it has. She crosses her arms, relaxing a bit.

ELOISE
(Authoritative)
Fine. Out with it.

Arad closes his eyes for a moment as if saying his last wishes.

ARAD
I'm… A demon.
(His eyes flash black, then with a blink they turn back to normal)

In a second, Eloise draws her blade. Blink and you miss it moment. The next moment, she slams Arad's head into the table with a loud THUNK which draws the attention of most of the diner.

Merkal

ARAD
(Panicked but still stoic)
Wait, wait, wait, wait! J-just hear me out, you swore.

ELOISE
(Pushing the blade closer into his skin)
Speak quickly.

Arad is breathing heavily, his shaking hands betraying his otherwise calm exterior.

ARAD
(Shaky)
Lucifer plans on killing the demons after he's done with Earth and the angels.
(Strangled laugh)
I-I don't want to die.

Eloise contemplates for a moment.

ELOISE
(Firm)
And you know how to kill Lucifer?

ARAD
(Cautious)
I know someone who might. They don't even know what they hold and only I can recognize it, you need me!
(Catching his breath)
I-I've only come to ask you because I know you're strong. Why would I risk *your* exorcism otherwise?

Eloise grunts but lets him go, sitting back into her seat. Arad seems genuine, and genuinely afraid. Fear is honest. Eloise picks up her burger and begins to eat, disgruntingly accepting what she knows she must do. Team up with a demon.

She finishes chewing.

ELOISE
(Pissed)
Brave soldier you are then. Why not ask another hunter, I'm sure all you skanky little black eyed freaks know my hatred toward your kind.

Before Arad is able to respond, who looks extremely uncomfortable, the waitress cautiously approaches. She's holding a phone in her hands, but seems to not have called the police yet.

Mirkal

WAITRESS
(Frightened)
Is-is everything all right?

ELOISE
Peachy.

ARAD
(Overlapping)
Yes, thanks.

The waitress does a small head nod before timidly leaving, reassuring the other staff and going O.C.

ELOISE
(Impatient)
Well?

ARAD
(Realizing)
Ah- well, we- I- didn't think another hunter would have as much motivation. This, this is not something a weak-willed person can do.

Eloise narrows her eyes at him. Something wasn't quite right. He was holding something back, and she could tell.

ELOISE
(Threateningly)
Cut the bullshit, *Arad*. If, and I cannot emphasize this enough, ***if*** we are working together, I need to know everything. Otherwise?
(Calmly places blade on the table)
My exorcism is going to get a pretty upgrade.

Arad gulps, eyeing the blade tip. He can already imagine the pain Eloise could inflict with it, he's seen the bodies afterall.

ARAD
(Scared)
Look. I… I'm trying to protect someone. Believe it, don't. I don't care, it's the truth. I'm just trying to keep the world together so that she can live in it.
(Raises hands)
That's all, I swear it.

Eloise looks surprised and her grip on her blade loosens. She still eyes him suspiciously, but his demeneor exudes too much fear to leave room for lies. She eats another french fry.

Mikal

She considers for another moment then sighs something heavy.

ELOISE
(Unwilling)
Fine. Fine. I'll…
(Sigh)
I'll… Work… With you.

Arad eyes her but visibly relaxes. He steals another fry silently. Eloise glares but he eats it anyway. Eloise is regretting her decision already. Partnering with a demon is bad enough, but one that steals her food? Unheard of.

Arad reaches for another but the icy stare from the other warns him against it. He nervously chuckles before retracting his empty hand.

The camera zooms into Eloise's eyes until-

BLACKOUT-

END OF ACT ONE

Markal

ACT TWO

EXT. DINER PARKING LOT - 3-5AM

Eloise is seen leaning on her AMC Javeline waiting for someone. Arad approaches from the side, a bag in hand. Eloise mentally beats herself up for this before standing up.

ELOISE
That all?

ARAD
This is it.

She sighs and opens the trunk. Another large box lies in it but remains closed, it takes up nearly the entire trunk space. Eloise takes Arad's medium duffle bag and throws it next to the container, shutting the trunk shortly after.

ELOISE
(Unhappy)
Alright, get in.

She points to the passenger's side. Arad listens. They both know it's going to be a long drive.

INT. ELOISE'S CAR, DRIVING DOWN HIGHWAY - EARLY MORNING

Eloise is on the driver's side, tapping her finger against the wheel. Arad is on the passenger's side, looking overall nervous but determined. Both look uncomfortable.

ELOISE
(Alright)
I think I've waited long enough.
Tell me everything you know.

Arad looks at her sideways.

ARAD
(Begrudgingly)
I have told you all you-

ELOISE
Nope, nuh uh. Tell me more than just hints and guesses and when we get there I'll actually let you stay on this plane of existence.

ON ARAD: A look of confused terror crosses his face.

ARAD
…fine.
(Beat)
The man's name is Vincent and he is harmless. Just trap him-

Market

ELOISE
(Startled)
Trap him? He's a demon?

ARAD
Yes. You did not honestly expect a human to have information on Lucifer?

Eloise begins tapping at the wheel again and takes a moment longer to respond.

ELOISE
I exorcise him.

ARAD
What? No, he is harmless-

ELOISE
He's a demon. He's not harmless.

ARAD
I'm a demon and-

ELOISE
No, no. You're *useful*. You pray to God that you stay that way.

Arad sits in stunned silence for a time. He's thinking about good ways to convince her not to exorcise the demon and can only hope on one path.

ARAD
The body he is possessing, it is still alive.

Eloise side glances at Arad before looking back at the road. She grimaces. The tapping of the wheel stops.

ELOISE
Just tell me more about this Vincent. Where does he have information on Lucifer?

ARAD
(Sigh)
His basement. He has been collecting what would be commonly thought of as "junk", but I believe some of it may be valuable.

ELOISE
And how many other demons know about this?

Mikal

ARAD
Lilith, Azazel, Astoreth. The apocolypse started less than a week ago, and no one else knows so we should be the only ones there. Now, it did-

ELOISE
(Overlapping)
No wait, did you say apocolypse?

The two look confused for their own different reasons.

ARAD
(Slowly)
Yes?

ELOISE
(Shit)
Okay.

Eloise gestures for Arad to continue what he was saying, but he takes his time doing so.

ARAD
…Now… It did take me a few days to locate you, so it is possible Vincent fleed.

ELOISE
Understood.

ON ARAD: A "what did I get myself into" look crosses his face as he turns to looks out the window.

CUT TO:

EXT. VINCENT'S HOUSE - DAY

BANG BANG BANG, Eloise's knocks on the man's door echoes in an empty house. No response. Eloise and Arad exchange looks.

Arad tries the knob which is locked and Eloise bends down, pulling out a cloth case. Opening it reveals lockpicks and she gets to work.

A moment later, the door clicks and Eloise pushes it open. Arad enters first, followed by Eloise.

INT. VINCENT'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The house is empty of any people, but filled to the brim with items. It looks like a hoarder's den who knows how to organize. Stacks of books line the walls with odd trinkets and a few weapons. A scrying orb can be seen somewhere in an off room.

Markal

Eloise continues to walk inside, gun ready. Arad starts to follow, but stops adrubtly. He looks up, but the camera is following Eloise and the viewers don't see what Arad is looking at.

ARAD
(Yell/whispering)
Eloise!

She turns around and mouths 'what?' to him. He points up. The camera follows Eloise's gaze upward, where a Devil's Trap is painted.

ON ELOISE: Confusion washes her face. A demon who defends himself with a Devil's Trap?

Arad half throws his hands up, asking her to hurry. 'Yeah, yeah, yeah' she mouths as she finds something to stand on. She begins carefully taking off a stack of books from a chair when-

SLAM!

Something hits her on the side of the face, presumably an attempt to knock her out. It almost does. Her vision swims as she tries to regain her clarity whilst on the ground. Arad can be heard talking, muffled in the background, but nothing coherent.

Eloise looks up to see an older man standing there, wooden BAT in hand, looking down on her. He swings again, this time knocking her out.

The camera stills on the perpetrator for a moment. His eyes remain normal but looks down on Eloise as if… He knows her?

CUT TO:

INT. VINCENT'S BASEMENT - AFTERNOON

Eloise comes to with a start. Her hands and legs are bound to a chair and blood trickles down the side of her head. She's still dizzy.

Descending footsteps from the house's main floor thump down. Eloise quickly shuts her eyes again and goes limp. The perpetrator approaches the chair. He approaches and begins to examine Eloise's state.

ON ELOISE: She starts to incoherently whisper something. It's quiet and the essence of injured very much still applies to her.

The man leans in, trying to hear what she's saying. Closer and closer until-

WHACK! Eloise slams her head into his, causing him to recoil several steps, an agonized groan splitting his throat. Eloise finally opens her eyes all the way, and we get a clear view of the scene.

The large man looks gruff, wearing plaid and jeans. He looks up, clear eyes. Eloise smiles maniacally but is still bound to the chair. Then she recognizes him.

ELOISE
…James?

The man curses under his breath and stands back up.

JAMES
(In pain)
Yeah, I can see yer still the same.
Hit first ask questions later.
(Groan)
The hell you doin' here, kid?

She looks at him obviously confused. She looks around the room as if waiting for an invisible audience member to chime in. When the moment passes she responds.

ELOISE
Well, if you *asked* about that first instead of hitting me over the head, we coulda had a real good laugh about this.
(Struggles with rope in an obvious manner)
James.

He puts his hands up in self defense, then sighs in defeat. He approaches her, MACHETTE in hand.

JAMES
I don't know kid, as soon as I saw that demon with ya I knew somethin' was up. Didn't wanna take any chances, y'know?

Eloise angrily exhales, staring daggers as James. He rounds to the back and slices through the rope. She rubs her wrists while James cuts her ankles free. She stands up.

ELOISE
Desperate times, James.

James stops and seriously looks at her.

JAMES
You heard then?

She nods then glances around as if looking for something.

ELOISE
Where's my shit?

James points upstairs and Eloise makes her way to ascend. She stops at the foot of the stairs.

ELOISE (CONT'D)
And what'd you do to that demon I was with?

JAMES
Still alive, still trapped. You woke up pretty quickly, kid. Didn't have time to start carving into that little shit.
(Amused)
Quite scrawny fer a demon.

Eloise chuckles.

ELOISE
When I get around to it, I'll give you a hollar.

She continues upstairs.

INT. VINCENT'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Eloise enters the landing, looking around for the front door which is to her right. She sees Arad there, looking worried and overall still stuck. On the spot she was knocked out but a little pushed away is Eloise's gun, lockpick and several knives. She shoots for those first.

ARAD
What happened? Is the man dead?

Eloise glances up as she gathers her things. She raises an eyebrow. "You'd like that wouldn't you" is written all over her face. Arad gets annoyed at this.

ARAD (CONT'D)
He trapped me and injured you.

Eloise stands up.

ELOISE
No, I didn't kill him. Old pal of mine, actually. Did exactly what I would've done if I'd seen him parading around with a demon.

Eloise glances to her left where an empty space is. She hears Maurie talking to her, but the viewers don't see or hear her. We're seeing it from an outsider's perspective, and Eloise handles it subtly.

Merkal

She turns back to Arad, pushing the remaining books on the chair she was working on earlier completely off. She grabs the chair and stands on it, scraping the Devil's Trap paint off with the tip of her knife.

Arad walks out from the circle.

ARAD
Thank you.

Eloise grimaces. Being thanked by a demon was definitely not something on her bucket list.

ELOISE
(Uneased)
Just… Find the damn thing. A book, I'm assuming?

Arad nods.

ARAD
It is likely in Vincent's basement. He put collections he was not immediately using down there. It will look like a grimoire.

Eloise raises an eyebrow. Witchcraft? Witchcraft will defeat Lucifer?

ARAD (CONT'D)
It is not an actual grimoire, the cover is a disguise. Is… That man still down there?

ELOISE
I'm coming down with you. C'mon.

Eloise leads the way to the basement door and Arad grudgingly follows.

ON ARAD: He looks nervous. Too nervous.

INT. VINCENT'S BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

The two descend, Arad in the back. James makes eye contact with Eloise, a look of "really?" plastered on his face. She glares.

ELOISE
(RE: James)
A grimoire. Seen anything like it down here?

James thinks for a moment.

JAMES
Nah-

Merkal

ARAD
(Pissed)
How did you know about Vincent in the first place?

James and Eloise scowl at Arad. They seem not too fond of the idea of working with a demon. But Eloise is curious too, and turns to James, silent. Waiting for an answer.

James exhales.

JAMES
Tortured it out of a rogue demon several days ago.
(Chuckle)
It wasn't too keen on keepin' any secrets with holy water down its hatch.

Arad takes another step down the stairs slowly. Suspicious. He gives Eloise a brief look. Eloise catches this.

She looks back at James.

ON ELOISE: She looks conflicted. She knows James somehow betrayed her, but believing it is another thing.

Maurie suddenly appears beside the stairs, leaning on the railing. She's smiling.

MAURIE
(Amused)
My, my. *Everyone* just *loves* betraying you, huh?
(Cackles)
Looks like uncle James isn't all that he said he was.

Eloise's blade is still clutched in her hand. She eyes James. Her sister's words are getting to her.

MAURIE (CONT'D)
Just slit his throat! Watch as the blood pools in his mouth, watch as he chokes on it, staring up at you. Betrayal for a betrayal. Why not?

Maruie walks slowly toward Eloise whispering in her ear. Smiling wide.

MAURIE (CONT'D)
Give him what he deserves.

Eloise doesn't want to listen, but she can't deny the desire. To make him pay.

JAMES
Kiddo?

Arad gives her another look. He clearly brought Eloise to be the muscle and is waiting for her to make a move.

ELOISE
(Quietly)
James… The truth.
(Seething)
Now.

James looks between Arad and Eloise. Then his demeneor completely changes. He looks dangerous, evil, now.

He sighs, pulling out his gun slowly. He points it at Eloise, who doesn't move.

JAMES
Y'know, I didn't wanna do this, kid. I really… Well, I really liked playin' with ya. I thought I'd instilled the hatred toward demons enough that you'd take my side over it but…
(Disappointed)
Here we are.

Eloise clenches her jaw. She can't believe it. Maurie laughs in her ear. The echoeing sickness of it stirring in her mind.

Betrayed. Lied to. Manipulated.

She looks up, locking eyes with James. Pure hatred. James wavers for a moment, shocked.

ELOISE
Here. We are.
(Resolving herself)
Y'know something, James?

JAMES
(Uneasy)
What's that, kid?

ELOISE
I hate liars.

SHINK! You blink and you miss it. Eloise throws her knife at James and it impales his hand. He drops his gun, clattering to the floor.

Eloise in the next moment rushes him. She grabs his head and slams it into her knee. James get a grip and punches Eloise right in cheek. She takes it, moving a bit with the force.

There's space between the two now. The gun kicked away.

James is panting. Eloise is breathing steadily.

JAMES
Can't believe you knifed your old man.

Eloise sneers.

ELOISE
Yes you can.

James considers for a moment.

JAMES
Yeah, I can. Still…
(Sucks in a breath)
It hurts.

She glares. If looks could kill.

James is more cautious now. It seems like he doesn't really want to fight her, but he will.

He advances in one motion, swinging. Eloise dodges low and rounds to the back, punching his spleen. In quick succession she nails his spine and kicks his leg in. James is bigger, but Eloise is faster.

James buckles to his knee and attempts another swing, this lands in a rushed block and pushes Eloise back a bit. James recollects himself, standing up.

BAM! Eloise shoots James unfatally. He falls with a yell. He looks up at her, holding his bloody wound.

BAM! Another one pierces him unfatally. He yells again, doubling over.

She approaches his now crouched figure and kicks him the face. He's thrown to the side.

ELOISE
(Angry)
So? Who was it? Azazel? Astoreth?
(Seething)
Lilith?

She punches his face. His head lolls back to look at her.

JAMES
(Weakly)
Kid…

Her expression is unreadable. Beyond angry, that much is understandable.

ELOISE
(Quietly)
It was Lilith, wasn't it.

Mikal

James can only look up at her, but she knows. She kneels there, beside him. Waiting. Thinking.

Maurie approaches her, crouching down beside Eloise. A smile plastered wide on her face. Creepy.

MAURIE
Kill him.

Eloise doesn't seem to be needing more asking. She wraps her hands around his throat, fingers digging into his skin.

James chokes, a weak hand tugging at Eloise's. Eyes pleading for mercy. He recieves none.

Her eyes are cold. Empty.

His are almost the same. The breath in his lungs all but gone. His life all but over.

ARAD
Wait.

Her grip loosens just slightly, startled by someone she forgot was there.

She doesn't respond. She knows what she has to do. She doesn't release, but loosens her grip only a little more.

ELOISE
(Gritting)
Where is it.

James' inhale is scratchy and painful sounding.

JAMES
I burned it. Lilith's wish.

Eloise's anger bubbles over. Something born of pure hatred escapes her throat, a growl? Her hands wrap tighter and tighter until the skin around her grip puffs up.

It's much later that Eloise finally lets go. Later than when James' struggled breaths stopped. Later than when they heard the bones in his neck break. Later than when his body stilled completely.

His body was gory to say the least.

Eloise stands up and turns around. She meets Arad's horrified gaze. We wonder which of the two is actually a demon.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

EXT. VINCENT'S FRONT YARD - LATER

Eloise is leaning against the car, smoking. Blood is still on her hands.

Arad exits the house, a look of disappointment on his face. He spots Eloise and cautiously approaches.

ARAD
There is nothing else. Whatever James burned was all that would have helped trap Lucifer. And it would have worked.

Eloise puffs out smoke, giving Arad a glance. She smushes the smoke under her heel.

ELOISE
Great.

Arad waits. He looks at her confused after awhile.

ARAD
That is all? Are you not disturbed by this turn of events?

Eloise smirks and crosses her arms. Something about this amused her, and Arad found it unsettling.

ELOISE
I'm standing here, thinking about that bitch Lilith and the backstabbing bastard James. And it occurs to me…
(Deadpan)
How did *you* know about this place?

Anger from the previous encounter is obviously still lingering. Arad is nervous.

ARAD
I knew Vincent personally… When he was still alive. A human.

She raises an eyebrow.

ELOISE
You mean you possessed him?

Arad hastily shook his head.

ARAD
Vincent has been a demon for centuries. He was a human sometime after the Flood. I… Was his son.

Mokal

Eloise looked shocked. An eyebrow raises slowly as she digests this information.

Her gaze sweeps over the surroundings. As if searching for an alternative answer. Damn.

ELOISE
My… Condolences?

She isn't sure how to feel about this. Arad doesn't either and the two stand in awkward silence for a time.

ELOISE (CONT'D)
Well, anyway, what now? You don't happen to know any other leads?

Arad shakes his head. He looks more disappointed than Eloise does.

She sighs and gets up. She looks him up and down, as if deciding something in her mind.

She looks to her left where Maurie stands, smiling widely at her. Batting her eyes. Eloise looks back to Arad. She decided.

ELOISE (CONT'D)
I might have an idea. Total shot in the dark, but maybe worth a try.

Arad looks confused, perplexed, even.

ARAD
Why bring me?

Eloise taps her head.

ELOISE
Your knowledge. You just revealed how old you are, and that, my demonic stain, is valuable.

ARAD
I am unfavorable to discovering a path toward this goal on my own, but what if I did say no?

Eloise only laughed and opened her door. She took another look at Arad, amused. She climbed in the car and fired it up.

Arad sighs, rounding the front and following her in.

INT. ELOISE'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Eloise pulls out of the dirt pathway and back onto the road. Farmland stretches out on either side of the road.

ARAD
So… Where are we going?

Eloise glances a look at him. She's not smiling and rather looks unhappy.

ELOISE
(Solemly)
A place I haven't been to in a long time.
(Sigh)
Seeing James reminded me of it. I had completed forgotten about it, to be honest.
(Beat)
My parents' old storage.

Arad tries to read her expression. Uncomfortable, to say the least.

ARAD
Why would they have had it?

ELOISE
Look, I said shot in the dark, yeah?
(Then)
Anyway, it's about two days' drive.
(Flicking on the radio)
Hope you like music.

ON ARAD: A slight groan, as if he *doesn't* like music. He leans against the window, looking out. Camera zooms in to him until-

CUT TO:

INT. ELOISE'S CAR - NIGHT

ON ARAD: Camera is still on him, but the lighting's completely changed to signify nighttime. The motion of the car causes him to stir (he wasn't asleep, just very, very still).

Eloise shuts off the car and opens the door. They're parked in front of a motel.

He follows.

EXT. MOTEL PARKING LOT - CONTINUOUS

Eloise pops the trunk lid and lets him gather his bag. She grabs a small duffle from behind the WEAPON TRUNK.

They make their way to the rooms and Eloise peeks in until she finds an empty room.

Makai

She breaks in with the pick and lock when she does.

ARAD
We are going to stay in an unpaid room?

Eloise gives him a "what the fuck?" expression before entering. Arad sighs defeatedly before following suit, shutting the door behind.

INT. RATTY MOTEL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

He heard the sprinkle of SALT from where Eloise is and turns to look.

She's surrounding one of the two beds with a circle of salt and when it's almost closed, looks up expectantly at him. He gives her a confused look.

ELOISE
You didn't seriously think I was going to sleep in the same vicinity as a demon and not take precaution?
(Beat)
Get on the bed.

He complies, though begrudingly. She closes the circle.

Climbing into her own bed, she immediately seems to fall asleep. Arad stares for a moment before looking at the ceiling.

The day's events replay in his mind. The gruesome death of James. The brutality of Eloise. The look in her eyes as she took a human life.

The way she looked at him when she was done.

He eyed the salt line, considering abandoning the mission. It would be easy.

No. Kill Lucifer.

ON ARAD: A look of determination and resolve. He shuts his eyes.

END OF ACT THREE

Mirkal

ACT FOUR

BURNS, OREGON 2004. WINTER

EXT. SNOWY WOODS - NIGHT

Two FIGURES are running through the woods, away from something.

Another figure, blurry, DASHES FORWARD. Its ripping growl causing a cascade of HOWLS from the distance. There're more.

One FIGURE trips, the other stops and urges to keep moving. They're both frantic. Camera angle to better catch their appearence. A YOUNG Eloise (17) and Maurie (24) as we know her.

This is the night she dies.

MAURIE
Ellie! We have to MOVE!

Maurie drags Eloise back to her feet, who stumbles after her as they continue to run.

ELOISE
(In tears)
I- I don't know how much more I can-

MAURIE
(Determined)
Until we *make it*! The cabin, it's just over the ridge! C'mon Ellie!

They continue running, the BARKING getting closer and closer. But-

A CABIN appears as they round the ridge. It's a small decline and they quickly get through it. The barking is getting closer. They're at the door.

It's locked.

Maurie stifles a cry.

MAURIE
How close?
(Eloise doesn't respond)
ELLIE! How close?

HOWLING erupts from nearby.

ELOISE
(Scared)
Close.

Mark

Damnit is muttered under Maurie's breath, which comes out in puffs. It's freezing outside.

She looks between the woods and her sister. Debating. She decides.

MAURIE
Sorry, Ellie. Better you than me, right?

Eloise's face is struck with horror, but she is not shocked. Maurie takes off away from the cabin, leaving her sister behind.

Eloise turns to the door and pounds on it.

ELOISE
(Screaming)
HELP! PLEASE! IS ANYBODY-?

The door swings open. A MAN stands there. His eyes are an unsettling YELLOW.

He blocks the path inside for a moment, then a smile lights his face. He steps aside.

Eloise doesn't think twice, she's inside.

INT. SMALL CABIN IN THE WOODS - CONTINUOUS

Eloise fumbles with the inside of her coat, dropping a container filled with SALT. She bends to pick it up when the man speaks.

YELLOW EYES
No need, child.

ELOISE
No, you don't understand sir, I-

YELLOW EYES
Hellhounds, I'm aware.

Eloise stills. She realizes-

She can't hear the HELLHOUNDS.

She stands upright and backs away from the man.

YELLOW EYES
(Laughing)
You. You are quite interesting. I occasionally hear updates from my…
Eh, what do you humans call them?
(Pauses)
Right. Minions.
(MORE)

Mahal

YELLOW EYES (CONT'D)
(Laughs)
I saw your sister abandon you.
Very… Ah, fun.

Eloise is now backed up against the cabin wall. Fear etched into her eyes.

YELLOW EYES cocks his head and approaches. He's enjoying this.

YELLOW EYES
I like you.
(Points)
Tell you. What. I'll make the deal you made ten years ago transfer to your dear sister. I mean, she's the one who tricked you into it first, isn't she.

Eloise's breath caught. The offer. Tempting to say the least. She stares at Yellow Eyes for a time.

The side of her mouth draws up ever so slightly. Yellow Eyes catches this and meets it grander.

ELOISE
(Cautious)
If I say yes…
(Zooming into her eyes)
Can I watch?

Yellow Eyes is stunned into silence. Not for long. His grin grows wide. A laugh erupts from his lungs O.C.

ON ELOISE: The camera zooms into Eloise's eyes enough to reflect the fire, which gives off the visual of yellow eyes.

OFF ELOISE: Yellow Eyes looks at her, considering.

YELLOW EYES
ABSOLUTELY!

With a SNAP, Maurie appears. She stumbles as if she was just running. She looks around, confused and concerned.

She sees Eloise and freezes. Then she hears them. The HELLHOUNDS.

Her head jerks to the door, and Yellow Eyes is gone.

MAURIE
(RE: Eloise)
S-Salt! You have the salt! Where-

Eloise throws the salt into the fire before Maurie can say another word. She stands in shocked horror. Her head spins back to the door. Another howl.

She backs up, getting the furthest away from the cabin door as she could.

She stares at Eloise.

MAURIE
(Quietly)
Why? How?

Eloise glares. She simply goes to the front door and opens it. She maintains eye contact with Maurie the duration.

The snow in front of the door bundles up as if a dog were standing in it. Then, with a growl, THREE DOGS, invisible, rush Maurie.

She's ripped into, her screaming cries echo in the night.

Eloise watches. Only a look of emptiness on her face.

The camera pans right to reveal that Yellow Eyes had returned, and joyously observed.

A smile returns to his face.

CUT TO:

EXT. SMALL CABIN IN THE WOODS - CONTINUOUS

The camera hovers above the cabin, growing further and further away.

The screams of Maurie don't cease until-

BLACKOUT-

TO BE CONTINUED…

Markal